

***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. - 20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A communications gateway, configured to receive a packet payload, the packet payload being formatted according to a first communications protocol, comprising:

a Media Access Controller/Physical Layer Interface (MAC/PHY) configured to determine whether the packet payload is one of a voice packet or a data packet and to translate the packet payload from the first communications protocol to a second communications protocol;

a proxy gateway configured to determine whether the packet payload is to be formatted according to a third communications protocol or a fourth communications protocol when the packet payload is of the voice packet;

a controller configured to translate the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the third communications protocol when the packet payload is of the voice packet that is to be formatted according to the third communications protocol, or is of the data packet; and

a processor configured to translate the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the fourth communications protocol when the packet

payload is of the voice packet that is to be formatted according to the fourth communications protocol.

22. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the first communications protocol is a Data Over Cable Service Interface Specification (DOCSIS) communications protocol.

23. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the third communications protocol is a Home Phoneline Network Alliance (HomePNA) communications protocol.

24. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the fourth communications protocol is a baseband protocol capable of delivering Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS) to one or more analog telephones.

25. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the proxy gateway determines the packet payload is to be formatted according to the third communications protocol when a first device that is configured to communicate using the third communications protocol goes off hook and the packet payload is to be formatted according to the fourth communications protocol when a second device that is configured to communicate using the fourth communications protocol goes off hook.

26. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the proxy gateway determines whether the packet payload is to be formatted according to the third communications

protocol or the fourth communications protocol based upon a destination address within the packet payload.

27. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the second communications protocol is an internal communications protocol, the internal communications protocol being independent of the first communications protocol, the third communications protocol, and the fourth communications protocol.

28. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the processor decompresses and depacketizes the packet payload then formats the packet payload according to the fourth communications protocol to translate the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the fourth communications protocol.

29. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the controller formats the packet payload according to the third communications protocol to translate the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the third communications protocol.

30. (New) The gateway of claim 21, wherein the proxy gateway comprises:  
a voice and data processor configured to determine whether the packet payload is to be formatted according to the third communications protocol or the fourth communications protocol.

31. (New) A method for translating a packet payload from a first communications protocol to either a second communications protocol or a third communication protocol, comprising:

(a) determining whether the packet payload is one of a voice packet or a data packet;

(b) translating the packet payload from the first communications protocol to a second communications protocol;

(c) determining whether the packet payload is to be formatted according to a third communications protocol or a fourth communications protocol when the packet payload is of the voice packet;

(d) translating the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the third communications protocol when the packet payload is of the voice packet that is to be formatted according to the third communications protocol, or is of the data packet; and

(e) translating the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the fourth communications protocol when the packet payload is of the voice packet that is to be formatted according to the fourth communications protocol.

32. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein step (b) comprises:

(b)(i) translating the packet payload from a Data Over Cable Service Interface Specification (DOCSIS) communications protocol to the second communications protocol.

33. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (d) comprises:

(d)(i) translating the packet payload from the second communications protocol to a Home Phoneline Network Alliance (HomePNA) communications protocol.

34. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (e) comprises:

(e)(i) translating the packet payload from the second communications protocol to a baseband protocol capable of delivering Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS) to one or more analog telephones.

35. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (c) comprises:

(c)(i) determining the packet payload is to be formatted according to the third communications protocol when a first device that is configured to communicate using the third communications protocol goes off hook and the packet payload is to be formatted according to the fourth communications protocol when a second device that is configured to communicate using the fourth communications protocol goes off hook.

36. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (b) comprises:

(b)(i) translating the packet payload from the first communications protocol to an internal communications protocol; the internal communications protocol being independent of the first communications protocol, the third communications protocol, and the fourth communications protocol.

37. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (c) comprises:

(c)(i) determining whether the packet payload is to be formatted according to a third communications protocol or a fourth communications protocol when the packet payload is of the voice packet based upon a destination address.

38. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (e) comprises:

(e)(i) decompressing and depacketizing the packet payload then formatting the packet payload according to the fourth communications protocol to translate the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the fourth communications protocol.

39. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein step (d) comprises:

(d)(i) formatting the packet payload according to the third communications protocol to translate the packet payload from the second communications protocol to the third communications protocol.